

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 12217 251444Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09
OES-07 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01 L-03 H-01 /080 W
-----125885 251614Z /43

R 251325Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4481
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, BEXP, NI
SUBJECT: SHIP PIRACY IN LAGOS HARBOR

REF: (A) LAGOS 12149 (B) 76 STATE 29311 (NOTAL)

1. FARRELL LINES OFFICE IN LAGOS/APPA HAS COMMUNICATED WITH
SS AFRICAN DAWN BY RADION AND HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION
SUMMARY.

2. WHILE THE SHIP WAS AWAITING BERTHING IN HARBOR ON EVENING
OF OCT. 18, THREE ROBBERS BOARDED FROM A CANOE EQUIPPED WITH
OUTBOARD ENGINE. THEY ARRIVED AT 0500 HOURS AND DEPARTED AT
0515 HOURS. THERE WAS NO ASSUALT ON PERSONS NOR WAS ANY CARGO
STOLEN. THE ROBBERS BROKE INTO TWO DECK LOCKERS AND STOLE ONE
NYLON ROPE. THEY ALSO BROKE OPEN FOUR STANDARD SHIPPING
CONTAINERS BUT APPARENTLY DID NOT SUCCEED IN REMOVING ANY
OF THE CONTENTS. THERE WAS NO OTHER DAMAGE.

3. SHIP IS DUE TO ARRIVE FROM COTONOU WITHIN SEVERAL DAYS. AT
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THAT TIME FARRELL LINES INTENDS TO MAKE A FULL INVESTIGATION
ANSWERING SUCH QUESTIONS AS "WHERE WERE THE SHIP'S GUARDS?"

4. IN CHECKING WITH VARIOUS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SHIPPING
COMMUNITY WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT A CONSTRUCTION COMPANY BOAT
WAS BOARDED IN BROAD DAYLIGHT IN INNER LAGOS HARBOR. THE
ATTACKERS WERE DRIVEN OFF BY OTHER BOATS BELONGING TO THE

COMPANY. A DANISH FREIGHTER WAS BOARDED RECENTLY BY ROBBERS
ARMED WITH MACHINE GUNS. AS A RESULT THE SCANDINAVIAN
EMBASSIES ARE WORKING ON A JOINT PROTEST AGAINST PIRATE
ATTACKS. AFTER SIMILAR ATTACK LAST NOV. 66 (REF B) FMG HAD
REPORTEDLY ASSURED THE DANES THAT SECURITY PATROLS WILL HALT
PIRACY BEFORE IT DEVELOPS FURTHER.
WYMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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